

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:96
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision to ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it would enable a safer route on genetically-modified crops and provide shelter against foreign attacks on the national law as well;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the protocol has been signed by 103 nations except USA?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

- (a): The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for ratification of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on 5.9.2002.
- (b) to (d): The Protocol offers a number of tools for promoting biosafety. It incorporates the use of Precautionary Principle, the application of Advance Informed Agreement, Procedure for import of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs), Risk Assessment and Risk Management Framework, Capacity Building, Public Awareness and exchange of scientific and technical information on Living Modified Organisms through a biosafety Clearing House Mechanism.
- (e): Yes, Sir.